AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended): A method of managing resources in a distributed network managed by a network administrator, each resource having at least one managed object and each resource capable of performing one or more tasks that modify the resource, the method comprising:

receiving a query to modify the distributed network from a client computer system in the distributed network;

accessing a plurality of resources in response to the query; and

providing management task options to the client computer related to the query, the management task options including tasks from more than one resource.

2.   (Currently Amended): A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the method further comprises:

receiving a request to display an instance of a first managed object managed by a first resource;

displaying attribute information related to the first managed object; and

displaying task information received from at least two back-end resources in response to the request to display the object information.
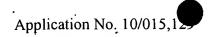
3.   (Currently Amended): A method as defined in claim 1 wherein a first resource includes a search handler performing search functions on the first resource and the method further comprises:

receiving search information from a first one of the plurality of resources related to a managed object type;

storing the search information in a search store;

receiving search handler information related to ~~the managed object type, the search handler relating to~~ search functions on the <u>first</u> resource;

in response to the <u>query</u> ~~request to display information, determining whether the information is in the search store, and if not~~ retrieving <u>data from the at least one managed object on the first</u> ~~the information from the~~ resource using the search handler; and

displaying the ~~information~~ <u>data</u>.

4. (Currently Amended): A method as defined in claim 3 wherein the search handler relates to a search engine on the <u>first</u> resource.

5. (Original): A method as defined in claim 3 wherein the search handler relates to search engines on more than one resource.

6. (Currently Amended): A method as defined in claim 3 wherein the method further comprises:

in response to the <u>query</u> ~~request to display object information~~, retrieving <u>search handler</u> information stored in <u>a</u> ~~the~~ search store; and

displaying ~~additional~~ <u>search handler</u> information from the search store to allow the user to refine the query.

7. (Original): A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the method further comprising:

associating a first search component with a first object type, wherein the first search component relates to object attributes managed by a first resource; and

associating a second search component with the first object type, wherein the second search component relates to object attributes managed by a second resource.

8. (Original): A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 1.

9.   (Original): A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 2.

10.   (Original): A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 3.

11.   (Original): A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing the method recited in claim 7.

12.   (Currently Amended): In a network environment having <u>a plurality of managers</u> <u>for use by a network administrator to manage</u> multiple resources, <u>each resource having data and</u> <u>capable of performing one or more tasks as directed by the network administrator that modify the</u> <u>resource,</u> a computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing a method, the method comprising:

receiving a notification that a new resource has been installed on the network environment~~, the installation process including communication information with the new resource~~;

retrieving search information associated with <u>data and tasks of the</u> new resource;

<u>determining that a first portion of the search information relates to a first</u> <u>manager;</u>

storing the <u>first portion of the</u> search information <u>in a first manager data</u> <u>store</u>~~associated with the new resource~~;

~~sharing the search information with another resource on the network~~

<u>determining that a second portion of the search information relates to a second</u> <u>manager; and</u>

<u>storing the second portion of the search information in a second manager data</u> <u>store</u>.

13.   (Original): A computer program product as defined in claim 12 wherein the notification includes the search information.

14.   (Currently Amended): A computer program product as defined in claim 12 wherein the search information relates to an object type managed by the <u>first manager</u>~~new resource~~, the method further comprising:

determining whether the search information relates to an existing ~~managed~~ object <u>of the object</u> type<u>, the existing object including information from at least one second</u> <u>resource</u>;

if so, associating the search information with the existing object ~~type~~; and

if not, associating the search information with a new object ~~type~~.

15. (Currently Amended): A system for query-based management of a <u>network</u> <u>having a</u> plurality of resources<u>, each resource having data and capable of performing one or more</u> <u>tasks that modify the resource as directed by a network administrator via a client computer,</u> comprising:

a management module in communication with the plurality of resources, the management module capable of receiving<u> a query from the client computer</u> ~~a request to~~ ~~access information related to one or more of the plurality of resources~~ and ~~to receive~~ search information from the plurality of resources, ~~the request relating to a query;~~ and

in response to the receipt of <u>the</u> ~~a~~ query ~~request~~, the management module performing search functions on more than one resource<u>, displaying search information</u> <u>received from the more than one resource, and providing access to the client computer to</u> <u>one or more resource tasks related to the query, each task resulting in the modification of</u> <u>at least one resource on the network</u>~~to display accessed information~~.

16. (Currently Amended): A system as defined in claim 15, wherein the management module comprises a search manager to receive and store search information, the search manager further communicates with the resources to perform ~~the requested~~ searches<u> based on the query</u>.

17. (Currently Amended): A system as defined in claim ~~19~~ <u>16</u> wherein each of the plurality of resources provides information to the search manager in XML format.

18. (Currently Amended): A system as defined in claim 17 wherein one of the resources has a dedicated search engine for performing searches<u> as directed by the search</u> <u>manager</u>.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Applicants amend FIGS. 1, 10, 13, 14, 16, 20, 21, and 23 herein to correct informalities as shown in the attached sheets of drawings. A discussion of each amendment is provided below.

Fig. 1 is amended to correct the spelling of "Explorer" and a spacing issue related to "Computers." This sheet, which includes Fig. 1 replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

Fig. 10 is amended to correct the spelling of "Explorer" and a spacing issue related to "Computers." 1014 as discussed in the specification on page 66, line 5, has been added to Fig 10. This sheet, which includes Fig. 10, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 10.

Fig. 13 a misprint of 1234 has been corrected to read 1234. Also, an errant number, 424 has been removed from Fig. 13. Finally, the misspelling of "Search," has been corrected. This sheet, which includes, Fig. 13, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 13.

Fig. 14 a misspelling of "Explorer" has been corrected and a spacing issue related to "Address." This sheet, which includes Fig. 14, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 14.

Fig. 16 the item number 1612 and 1610 were changed to reflect the discussion in the specification. This sheet, which includes Fig. 16, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 16.

Fig. 20 the item number 2026 has been added to accurately reflect the discussion in the specification. This sheet, which includes Fig. 20, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 20.

Fig. 21 is amended to correct a misspelling of "Explorer." In addition, item 1420 was changed to reflect the discussion in the specification. This sheet, which includes Fig. 21, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 21.

Fig. 23 has been amended to correct a spelling error in "Tim Jones." This sheet, which includes Fig. 23, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 23.

Attachment: 8 Replacement Sheets